

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, December 20, 2011
Executive Session – 7:00pm
Open Session – 8:00pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order at 7:01 pm on Tuesday, December 20, 2011.
 - a. Roll Call – all members were present: Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelley Pezza, Vice Chair, and member Patricia Fountain. Also present were Greg Piccirilli, Legal Counsel, Davida Irving, Superintendent / Principal and FSC Secretary, Mrs. McCullough.
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance – was recited.
2. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted **to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a) (1) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation.**
 - a. **(1) Personnel – Superintendent / Principal Contract**
 - b. **(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Arbitration – Educational Support Personnel**
3. **Reconvene Open Session** – Mrs. Swanson reported out that the FSC discussed Litigation, Arbitration – Educational Support Personnel and Superintendent / Principal’s contract and no votes were taken.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Public Comment** – none.
5. **Building Use Requests** – On a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant use of the building to Swamp Meadow Theatre for auditions and play rehearsal from Jan. 5, 2012 through May 8, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

6. **Approval of Minutes** - On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to approve the minutes of September 27, 2011. Mrs. Fountain wanted to go on record that she does not agree with the legal counsel's opinion in this matter. She does not agree that its okay for some votes to be changed and not other votes. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swenson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to approve the Executive Minutes of October 11, 2011. Discussion followed. Mrs. Fountain said the Executive Session Minutes were changed. They had one set of minutes in the packet last meeting. This is a re-draft and they were also provided with these at the last meeting and she believes that she said at the last meeting that at the October 11th Executive Session she did not vote to seal those minutes because there was a clear violation of the Open meeting acts during Executive Session and she pointed that out to the FSC at that time. The original Executive Session Minutes were a clear reflection of what took place.

Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swenson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no, violation concern

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to approve the FSC minutes of Tuesday, November 22, 2011 Open Session. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to approve the Executive Session minutes of Tuesday, November 22, 2011 FSC meeting. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

7. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Warrant total amount of \$13,641.81 for fiscal year 2011-2012 dated Nov 18, 2011. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Warrant totaling \$82, 648.76 for Nov. 22, 2011

8. **Old Business (for discussion/action)**

- a. Legal Services – Out to Bid – Dr. Irving informed the School Committee of their options to decide on Legal services: 1. Interview the candidates – Executive

Session, 2. Discussion of fiscal implications – Executive session, 3. Discuss performance, 10 day notification to the candidates and their option of Open or Executive Session, 4. FSC can vote to maintain present Legal Counsel. On a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to table this item until Executive Session at the January 2012 meeting. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

- b. Tuition – Out of District – Dr. Irving researched what the State contribution is per student for Core instruction would be. The amount \$8333.00 and if free and reduced lunch add on an additional \$333.00. If the FSC wanted to calculate tuition for a student coming in from out of district, she suggested around \$9000.00. Discussion followed. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table this out of district tuition until further information from RIDE. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

9. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. Wellness Committee Policy – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table this item. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- b. Building Grounds Update – Joe McGovern provided the FSC an update of the building after the roof collapse and the future assessment as it pertains to the capacity of snow on the roof and the warranty plus the manufacturer's recommendations.
- c. Technology Update – Mr. William Bunch, Technology Coordinator, updated the FSC on the steps taken to improve the technology in the school and some remaining issues from the roof collapse and future expectations for technology.
- d. Student / Staff Recognition – Dr. Irving recognized the Marx family and their son Shane for building and completing the Pyramid to Success for the PBIS program. She also recognized a group of fifth grade students who will be a leadership team.

10. Communication/Reports

- a. Correspondence – none.
- b. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Irving reported that the 2nd Learning Celebration will be held on Dec. 21, 2011. Dr. Irving and Mr. Moore, Business Manager, have been working on a preliminary budget for 2012-2013. The Building Committee had their first meeting for this year and discussed several building maintenance issues needing attention in the near future. PBIS team meets twice a month before school and are working on a homework reward system. Dr. Irving reported the After School Program had completed for this fall and there are plans to run another program in the spring. The After School program is run and paid for by the PTG. She also wished everyone a happy holiday and a safe and healthy new year.

- c. Business Manager's Report – Mr. Moore, Business Manager, reported. It was suggested to move the Business Manager's report to the beginning of the agenda, preferably before or after Warrants.
- d. Future Agenda Items –
 - Full Day Kindergarten – Dr. Irving
 - Technology follow-up at the Region and Gloucester – Ms. Pezza
 - Xerox Corporation contract / lease – cost benefit analysis to own – Mrs. Fountain
 - Bid Process – RFP as it pertains to the Town Charter
 - Web Site – Mouse Works – Mrs. Fountain
 - Cost to repair chimney – Mrs. Fountain
 - Out of District Tuition Costs – Mrs. Fountain
 - Building Committee – detailed report of projects being looked at and Cost to repair chimney – Mrs. Fountain
 - Contractor that reconfigured the server and recourse – Mrs. Fountain

11. **Adjournment** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC adjourned at 9:50 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee